Attorney Docket No.: 970194U1D1R1D2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

John C. Gano, et al.

Serial No.:

10/812,468

Filed:

March 30, 2004

Entitled:

EXPANDABLE WELLBORE

JUNCTION

Group Art Unit:

3676

Examiner:

G. Suchfield

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(C))

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of the above-identified application and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance.

A credit card form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c).

U.S. Patent:

5,388,648

Foreign Patent documents:

EP 0786578

EP 0795679

European examination report for application no. 04 075 738.7 - 2315

04/17/2006 FMETEKI1 00000025 10812468

Attorney Docket No.: 970194U1D1R1D2

As listed on the accompanying form PTO- SB-08, the Applicants hereby call the examiner's attention to the following information of which they are aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Written notification that the listed documents have been considered in their entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH IP SERVICES, P.C.

Marlin R. Smith

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 38,310

Dated: April 6, 2006

660 North Central Expressway Suite 230 Plano, Texas 75074 (972) 516-0030

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE tersons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Under the Paperwork Reduction / Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO **Application Number** 10/812,468 Filing Date March 30, 2004 **INFORMATIO** First Named Inventor John C. Gano Statement by Art Unit 3676 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** G. Suchfield

Attorney Docket Number

970194 U1D1R1D2

Sheet

Examiner	Cite	Dogument Number	D. C. I ATEN	DOCUMENTS	
Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS	·	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T6
		EP 0786578	07-30-1997	Anadrill International		-
		EP 0795679		Anadrill International		<u> </u>
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Examiner		Date		
Signature		Considered		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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	Application Number	10/812,468
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	March 30, 2004
STATEMENT BY CANT	First Named Inventor	John C. Gano
(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Art Unit	3676
,	Examiner Name	G. Suchfield
Sheet 2 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	970194 U1D1R1D2

	T	NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
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